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Effects of atomic radiation

Letter dated 26 February 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to bring to your attention General Assembly resolution 61/109, adopted by the Assembly on 14 December 2006. In paragraph 14 of the resolution, the Assembly invited those Member States that desired to join the Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation to inform the President of the Assembly of their interest before 28 February 2007. Such requests are to be considered at the sixty-second session of the Assembly.

You may know that Ukraine is the country most seriously affected by the Chernobyl disaster. We are much interested therefore in close cooperation with the Committee in order to counter and minimize the consequences of the largest nuclear accident in the history of humanity, by using a common scientific understanding of its causes and nature.

Last year, the international conference on the theme "Twenty years after the Chernobyl accident: future outlook" was held in Ukraine. The conference concluded with a series of dedicated events and promoted the effective implementation of the accumulated international experience, in particular in the areas of radiation protection of the population and emergency workers and of medical and public health responses to radiation emergencies. At the same time, Ukraine has its own scientific potential and has accumulated databases on exploring and overcoming the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, which allow our State to contribute to international studies.

In that regard, the Government of Ukraine believes that its experience and knowledge would be a significant contribution to the activities of the Scientific Committee and, through its mechanisms, would better serve the interests of the peoples of the planet.

I would like to request that you inform all States Members of the United Nations of the interests of Ukraine in joining the Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation and make all necessary preparatory arrangements for the further consideration of the question of its membership on the Scientific Committee, in accordance with the provisions of Assembly resolution 61/109.

(*Signed*) Viktor V. **Kryzhanivsky**
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Ukraine to the United Nations

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Financing the United Nations Operation in Burundi

Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi: donation of assets

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

I. Introduction

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered an advance copy of the report on the financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi (ONUB) (A/61/771).

2. The Advisory Committee notes that the mandate of ONUB was established by the Security Council in its resolution 1545 (2004). By its resolution 1692 (2006), the Council decided to extend the mandate of ONUB until 31 December 2006 and welcomed the intention of the Secretary-General to establish, at the end of that period, the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi (BINUB). On 1 January 2007, ONUB commenced its administrative liquidation, including the process of the disposition of its assets, which is expected to be completed by 30 June.

II. Background

3. The report of the Secretary-General notes that regulation 5.14 (e) of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations stipulates that any assets which have been installed in a country and which, if dismantled, would set back the rehabilitation of that country shall be provided to the duly recognized Government of that country in return for compensation in a form to be agreed by the Organization and the Government. The regulation refers in particular to airfield installations and equipment, buildings, bridges and mine-clearing equipment. Where such assets cannot be disposed of in that manner or otherwise, they are to be contributed free of charge to the Government of the country concerned. Such contributions require the prior approval of the General Assembly.

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4. The Advisory Committee notes that ONUB has identified for donation to the Government of Burundi, on a free-of-charge basis, assets with an inventory value of $2,799,400 and a residual value of $1,726,300. This represents 5.1 per cent of the total inventory value of the Operation's assets, which amounts to $55,253,300. The assets earmarked for donation to the Government of Burundi comprise prefabricated buildings, generators, fuel tanks, water and septic tanks and accommodation equipment. The report of the Secretary-General notes that the cost of dismantling, refurbishing, packing and shipping would be uneconomical, especially since ONUB is landlocked.

5. The report summarizes the individual values of the asset groups proposed for donation, as follows:

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Inventory value*	*Residual value as at 15 February 2007*
Prefabricated buildings	2 222.9	1 380.6
Generators	188.5	144.2
Fuel tanks	11.5	7.4
Water and septic tanks	129.5	67.8
Accommodation equipment	192.8	102.4
Miscellaneous equipment (electrical panels)	54.2	23.9
Total	**2 799.4**	**1 726.3**

6. The Advisory Committee notes from the report of the Secretary-General that the ONUB asset disposal plan is under implementation and that further information will be provided in the context of the final disposition of assets upon completion of the Operation's administrative liquidation.

III. Conclusion

7. The action to be taken by the General Assembly at its sixty-first session in connection with the financing of ONUB is indicated in paragraph 6 of the report of the Secretary-General. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly approve the donation of assets with an inventory value of $2,799,400 and a corresponding residual value of $1,726,300 to the Government of Burundi on a free-of-charge basis.**